

3731
PC401.01:DAC:152464

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in this Submission

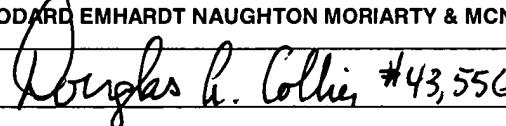
Application Number	09/694,521
Filing Date	October 23, 2000
First Named Inventor	George Frey et al.
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in this Submission	4002-2512 (PC401.01)

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation, Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure (please identify below)
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	X 21 cited refs.
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Documents	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	X Copy of Written Opinion
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

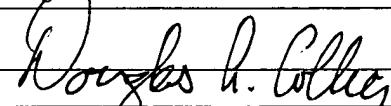
Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual Name	Douglas A. Collier WOODARD EMHARDT NAUGHTON MORIARTY & MCNETT
Signature	
Date	December 19, 2001

Certificate of Mailing

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Typed or printed name	Douglas A. Collier		Date	December 19, 2001
Signature				



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent) Before the Examiner
application of:)
George Frey et al.)
Serial No. 09/694,521) Group Art Unit 3731
Filed October 23, 2000)
DEVICES AND TECHNIQUES FOR) December 19, 2001
POSTERIOR LATERAL DISC SPACE)
APPROACH)

#5

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 1.98,
Applicant discloses the following references on the attached Information Disclosure
Citation Form. This information has not been previously submitted in this application by
the applicants.

The filing of this information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an
admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as
defined in §1.56 or that any information cited is prior art to the present invention.

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D.C. 20231 on December 19, 2001.

Douglas A. Collier
Name of Registered Representative
Douglas A. Collier
Signature

December 19, 2001

Date of Signature

The foreign language reference marked with an * was cited with respect to claims 20 and 35 in a Written Opinion received in the present application's counterpart PCT Application US/00/41433. A copy of this Written Opinion is enclosed herewith to comply with the requirement for a concise statement of the relevance of this foreign language reference under 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3).

This Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a First Office Action on the merits, therefore no fees are believed due for consideration of the enclosed references. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted

By: _____

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